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SUBJECT: QATAR CONTINUES TO STUDY U.S. CANDIDACY TO THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

REF: SECSTATE 36629

¶1. (SBU) Ambassador delivered reftel demarche April 19 to Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Al-Mahmoud, seeking Qatar's vote and support for a U.S. seat on the UN Human Rights Council at the UN.

¶2. (SBU) Al-Mahmoud responded that the GOQ has yet to take a decision on this matter. He noted, however, that President Obama is making positive moves with respect to human rights and said Qatar welcomed his recent statements in Turkey on the need for a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

LeBaron